



The North Dakota Economic Development Foundation was created in 2001 at the same time the North Dakota Department of Commerce was established. The vision statement of the Foundation is: *With respect for North Dakota values and quality of life, the North Dakota Economic Development Foundation will be a catalyst in creating quality employment opportunities making North Dakota a competitive partner in the global economy.*

**Mission:**

The Foundation's mission is to serve in an advisory role to the Governor and the Department of Commerce by:

- Developing a strategic plan for economic development in the state, including the development of value-added agriculture. The Foundation completed its first strategic plan in September 2002 and is now taking steps to implement the plan.
- Establishing accountability measures and benchmarks to evaluate the state's economic development.
- Monitoring tourism and economic development activities and initiatives of the Department of Commerce.
- Recommending state and federal legislation relating to strengthening the state's economy and increasing the state's population.
- Monitoring state and federal legislation and initiatives that may impact the state's economy and population.
- Serving as a source of expertise for developing public and private initiatives to strengthen the state's economy and increase the state's population.

**Goals:**

- Create quality jobs to retain North Dakota's current workforce and attract new high-skilled labor.
- Accelerate job growth in diversified industry targets to provide opportunities for the state's long-term economic future.
- Strengthen North Dakota's business climate to increase global competitiveness.
- Create a strong marketing image to build on the state's numerous strengths, including workforce, education and quality of life.
- Strengthen linkages between the state's higher education system, economic development organizations and private businesses.
- Develop a unified front for economic development based on collaboration, accountability and trust.

**Members:**

Foundation members are appointed by the Governor for two-year terms. Current members are:

Al Anderson, Bismarck  
Bruce Smith, Grand Forks  
Bruce Thom, Fargo  
Chuck Hoge, Fargo  
Craig Lambrecht, Bismarck  
Daniel Traynor, Devils Lake  
Danita Bye, Stanley  
Eric Trueblood, Grand Forks  
Jim Traynor, Fargo, Chairperson  
Jon Simmers, Bismarck  
Judi Paukert, Grand Forks

Kari Ness, Jamestown  
Kelly Rusch, Fargo  
Lyn James, Bowman  
Mark Nisbet, Fargo  
Mike Seminary, Bismarck  
Pamela Schmidt, Bismarck  
Randy Hatzenbuehler, Medora  
Robert Hovland, Rugby  
Steve McNally, Minot  
Tim Hennessy, Bismarck  
Wally Goulet, Bismarck

**For more information contact:**

Jim Traynor, Intelligent InSites, 102 Broadway, Suite 200, Fargo, ND 58102 or call 701-893-2098.